UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
FACULTY OF MUSIC

Global Musics Ensembles II

Thursday, March 27, 2025 at 7:30 pm | Walter Hall, 80 Queens Park

PROGRAM

Japanese Taiko Drumming Ensemble

Iwai (Celebrate) — Kiyoshi Nagata

Fuyu no Michi — Shuichi Hidano

Renshu Daiko — Seiichi Tanaka

Gezan Bayashi — traditional

Sanmyaku Daiko — Kiyoshi Nagata

Ogi Matsuri Daiko — Yoshikazu Fujimoto

Yatai Bayashi — traditional

African Drumming & Dancing Ensemble

Kyekyekule

Bambaya

Zigi

Gota

Kpanlogo

We wish to acknowledge this land on which the University of Toronto operates. For thousands of years, it has been the traditional land of the Huron-Wendat, the Seneca, and the Mississaugas of the Credit. Today, this meeting place is still the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island and we are grateful to have the opportunity to work on this land.

As part of the Faculty's commitment to improving Indigenous inclusion, we call upon all members of our community to start/continue their personal journeys towards understanding and acknowledging Indigenous peoples' histories, truths and cultures. Visit indigenous.utoronto.ca to learn more.

JAPANESE TAIKO DRUMMING ENSEMBLE
Course Director: Kiyoshi Gary Nagata
Course TA: Grace MacCaskill
Guest performers: Akemi Akachi, Keven He

Dipo Adeola
Elyssa Arde
Ruixuan Chen
Yuling Chen
Korin Inoue
Jake Lamb
Pablo Marin-Marquez
Danielle Millet
Julian Przybyslawski
Rita Ren
Yana Shamis
Tristan Stryjnik
Hayden Thomas
Tze Wai Jeanne Tsui
Katie Wang
Josh Yeo
Charles Zhu
Jeffrey Zhu

AFRICAN DRUMMING & DANCING ENSEMBLE
Course Director: Kwasi Dunyo
Course TA: Grace MacCaskill

Bentley Will
Brathwaite Kimberly
Chen Yuling
Gibson Josh
Guo Jia Huan
Joel Goldwin Hanson
Malandrino Adriana
Millet Dan
Salas Narvaez Jorge
Siddhantakar Rhea
Sun Harry
Wang Adam
Wang Katie
Wang Zai
Xiao Fiona
Zhang Emily
Zhang Xinya

PROGRAM NOTES

Japanese Taiko Drumming Ensemble

Iwai composed, by Kiyoshi Nagata
Iwai or ‘celebrate’ in Japanese, is an upbeat piece depicting the lively scene of a Japanese festival (matsuri). The drummers shout “Yoisho” which is a call of encouragement when the portable shrine is paraded around the festival.

Renshu Daiko, composed by Seiichi Tanaka
Renshū Daiko literally means ‘practice song’. Played in rounds, this piece incorporates many traditional patterns and techniques found in Japanese taiko music.

Fuyu no Michi (Winter Road), composed by Shuichi Hidano
This is a modern composition by virtuoso taiko player Shuichi Hidano. In this piece, two groups of performers duel each other with interweaving rhythms.

Gezan Bayashi, traditional
At the time of the autumn equinox, the people of Aomori visit Iwaki Shrine at the foot of sacred Mt. Iwaki to worship. On the last day, they undertake their annual pilgrimage to the summit, carrying colourful banners and wearing white robes. They make two ascents: one at night to see the sunrise and the second in daylight. After the purification ritual, the pilgrims descend the mountain accompanied by Japanese drums, hand cymbals and flutes.

Gezan Bayashi, literally means music for descending the mountains. The origins of the pilgrimage, also known as Oyama-sankei, dates back to the Genroku era (17th-18th century).

Sanmyaku Daiko, composed by Kiyoshi Nagata
Literally meaning 'Mountain Range', this piece envisions three groups of drummers from a distance, calling back and forth to each other from the mountaintops.

Ogi Matsuri Daiko, composed by Yoshikazu Fujimoto
Ogi is a small port town located on the southern part of Sado Island in Niigata Prefecture. The local villagers play this piece during Ogi Matsuri (festival) every August on taiko attached to large mobile carts.

Yatai Bayashi, traditional
Every year on December 3rd in Saitama Prefecture in an area known as Chichibu, an all night festival is held which features richly decorated two-story carts (Yatai) pulled from village to village. The people hauling the Yatai are urged on by the beating of the taiko, concealed within the first story of the carts.

African Drumming & Dancing Ensemble

Kyekyekule
A very popular radio and TV program for children in Ghana. Will be used as warm up for the students.

Bambaya
A social or recreational dance from Northern Region of Ghana.

Zigi
A social or recreational dance originated from the Volta Region of Ghana.

Gota
A social or recreational dance originated from the Volta Region of Ghana.

Kpanlogo
A social or recreational dance originated from the Ga people of Ghana they live in and around the capital Accra